

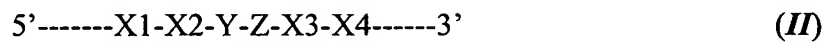
Amendments to the Claims:

This claim listing will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Claim Listing:

1.-8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently amended) An immunostimulatory oligonucleotide compound comprising an immunostimulatory domain of formula (II):



wherein

Y is ~~cytidine, 2'-deoxycytidine, or~~ a non-natural pyrimidine nucleoside;

Z is guanosine, 2'-deoxyguanosine, or a non-natural purine nucleoside;

X1 is a naturally occurring nucleoside or an immunostimulatory moiety selected from the group consisting of C3-alkyl linker, 2-aminobutyl-1,3-propanediol linker, and β -L-deoxynucleoside;

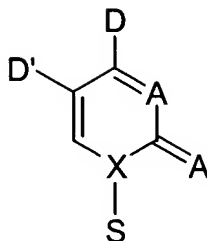
X2 is a naturally occurring nucleoside or an immunostimulatory moiety that is an amino linker;

X3 is a naturally occurring nucleoside or an immunostimulatory moiety that is a nucleoside methylphosphonate;

X4 is a naturally occurring nucleoside or an immunostimulatory moiety selected from the group consisting of nucleoside methylphosphonate and 2'-O-methyl-ribonucleoside; provided that at least one of X1, X2, X3, and X4 is an immunostimulatory moiety.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Original) The immunostimulatory oligonucleotide compound of claim 10, wherein Y has the formula (I):

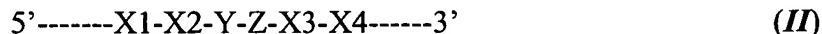


(I)

wherein D is a hydrogen bond donor, D' is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydrogen bond donor, hydrogen bond acceptor, hydrophilic group, hydrophobic group, electron withdrawing group and electron donating group, A is a hydrogen bond acceptor or a hydrophilic group, X is carbon or nitrogen, and S is a pentose or hexose sugar ring, provided that Y is not cytidine or deoxycytidine.

12.-38. (Canceled)

39. (New) An immunostimulatory oligonucleotide compound comprising an immunostimulatory domain of formula (II):



wherein

Y is cytidine, 2'-deoxycytidine;

Z is a non-natural purine nucleoside;

X1 is a naturally occurring nucleoside or an immunostimulatory moiety selected from the group consisting of C3-alkyl linker, 2-aminobutyl-1,3-propanediol linker, and β -L-deoxynucleoside;

X2 is a naturally occurring nucleoside or an immunostimulatory moiety that is an amino linker;

X3 is a naturally occurring nucleoside or an immunostimulatory moiety that is a nucleoside methylphosphonate;

X4 is a naturally occurring nucleoside or an immunostimulatory moiety selected from the group consisting of nucleoside methylphosphonate and 2'-O-methyl-ribonucleoside; provided that at least one of X1, X2, X3, and X4 is an immunostimulatory moiety.